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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,459	03/01/2004	Warren B. Cope	2673	9953
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			4183	
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			12/07/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/790,459

**Applicant(s)**

COPE, WARREN B.

**Examiner**

AMAL ZENATI

**Art Unit**

4183

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

DETAILED ACTION

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1 - 35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 (e) as being anticipated by **Calhoun et al (6,959,077 B1; hereinafter Calhoun)**.

Consider **claims 1 and 19**, **Calhoun** clearly shows and discloses a method and a system of operating a communication system comprising: programming a first switch to terminate calls directed to at least one phone number (directory number); establishing a disaster (fault or disruption) recovery plan to terminate the at least one phone number at a second switch in response to the occurrence of a predetermined event; in response to the occurrence of the predetermined event, programming a local copy of a local number portability database to direct communications for the at least one phone number to the second switch ( col. 7, line 13-46; and claim 19).

Consider **claim 2**, **Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the second switch is programmed to terminate calls to the at least one phone number (col. 10, line 57-61).

Consider **claims 3 and 20**, **Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the second switch is programmed to terminate calls to the at least one phone number (directory number) before the occurrence of the predetermined event and where the second switch is activated to terminate calls to the at least one phone number after the occurrence of the predetermined event (col. 5, line 13-25; and claim 19).

Consider **claims 4, 5, 21, and 22, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the local copy of the local number portability database directs communications for the at least one phone number to the first switch before the occurrence of the predetermined event; and where the local copy of the local number portability database is queried whenever an on-net originating switch processes a call that will be terminated by on-net switch (col. 7, line 5- 16; and fig. 2).

Consider **claims 6, 7, 23, and 24, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the local copy of the local number portability database is queried whenever an on-net originating switch processes a call that will be terminated by on-net switch; and where the local of the local number portability database is queried when the request for a connection to an on-net switch comes from an off-net device (col. 6, line 60 -67; and fig. 1).

Consider **claims 8, 9, 25, and 26, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the predetermined event is when the first switch becomes disabled (col. 7, line 23-24); and where the programming of the local number portability database to direct communications for the at least one phone number to the second switch occurs automatically with determination that the first switch is disabled (col. 7, line 21-28).

Consider **claims 10 and 27, Calhoun** clearly shows and discloses the method and the communication system, where the second switch is located in a different geographic area than the first switch (abstract, line 19-23).

Consider **claims 11, 12, 28, and 29, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the at least one phone number is a phone number resulting from the translation of a toll free phone number (ten digit directory number); and where the at least one phone number can also be dialed directly (col. 3, line 54-61).

Consider **claims 13, 14, 30, and 31, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the programming the local number portability database is done from a web page (col. 8,

claim 6); and where the second switch is changed to terminate calls to the at least one phone number using the web page (col. 8, claim 4).

Consider **claims 15 and 32, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the change made to the second switch is to activate the termination of pre-programmed numbers from the first switch (col. 7, line 33-41).

Consider **claims 16 and 33, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the communications for the at least one phone number are directed to the second switch by changing the location route number in the local number portability database (col. 8, claim 7, line 50-59).

Consider **claims 17 and 34, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, where the local number portability database is a local copy of the regional local number portability database and the local copy of the local number portability database is under the control of only 1 service provider (col. 8, line 19-21).

Consider **claims 18 and 35, Calhoun** clearly shows the method and the communication system, all the phone numbers actively terminated by the first switch are ported to the second switch (col. 7, line 38-43).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amal Zenati whose telephone number is (571)270-1947. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on 571- 272- 1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571- 571-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

Art Unit: 4183

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner Amal Zenati  
/Amal S. Zenati/

December 5, 2007

/Len Tran/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4183